

RAHMA MERCY CLINIC

MERCY CLINIC NEWSLETTER

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ANNUAL CLINIC UPDATE

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VITAL STATISTICS (April 1, 2014-June 30, 2014)

- Provided **55 hours** of free healthcare to the community
- Served **55 patients**
- Donated **\$12,000** of physician services
- Provided **\$2,592** of staff services
- Ranked **#2** in Safety Net Provider Clinics in Alachua County

On April 16, 2014, the RAHMA Mercy Clinic held its annual clinic update. This event was meant to be both a celebration of the clinic's volunteers and an opportunity for the clinic coordinators to update the volunteers about the clinic's progress. Those in attendance included all those who volunteer with the clinic, from physician providers, medical students, and undergraduates, to donors.

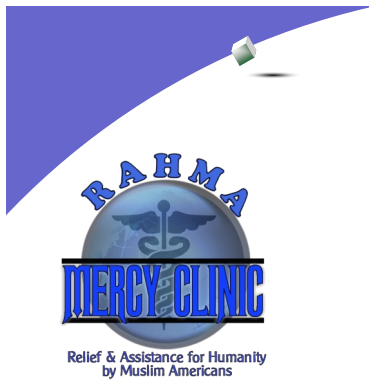


In the three years that RAHMA has served the Gainesville community with free medical care, it has made an impact in the area. Gainesville faces significant barriers to medical care. Chronic diseases, such as diabetes and hypertension, are widespread. A quarter of the population earns less than 100% of the federal poverty line, and half of the population falls below 200% of the federal poverty line. 28% of Gainesville residents do not have health insurance, creating a significant barrier to obtaining care. As a result, obtaining care in the emergency room is common, costing \$67 million in potentially avoidable annually.

RAHMA Mercy Clinic aims to provide free medical care to those in need, in an attempt increase health care access and decrease unnecessary emergency room visits. Visits to RAHMA Mercy Clinic are completely free, and in some instances, RAHMA can pay for blood draws and medications, to further decrease barriers to care. Over the past three years, RAHMA's impact has grown significantly. 160 patients visited the clinic in 2013, 110 of which were new patients. This is double the number of visits from 2011, when the clinic opened. 82% of the patients are Gainesville residents, showing that RAHMA has a direct impact on the local community. 75% of the visits relate to infectious disease, while 21% are regarding chronic disease and 4% are well visits.

RAHMA's impact could not be made without all the help and support that it receives from the community. Thank you!





5220 SW 13th St
Gainesville, FL 32608

Tax ID: 27-2532869

*“Relief and
Assistance for
Humanity by
Muslim Americans”*

How You CAN HELP

The RAHMA Mercy Clinic is dependent up on volunteers and donations. If you are interested in volunteering, visit <http://rahmamercyclinic.com/files/application.pdf> to download a volunteer application. Physicians and other health care providers are encouraged to donate their time and expertise. Community members are welcome to volunteer as well!

Monetary donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 142441, Gainesville FL 32614-2441. Donations of medical equipment and supplies are appreciated. If you would like to donate these types of supplies, please contact the clinic to coordinate the donation. All donations are tax-deductible.

www.rahmamercyclinic.com

NEW PHYSICIAN PROVIDERS AND OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

We are delighted to welcome two new physician volunteers: Dr. Foiqa Chaudhry and Dr. Hany Elmariah. We appreciate their efforts and volunteer spirit.

Dr. Chaudhry completed medical school at Allama Iqbal Medical College in Pakistan. She then went on to complete a residency at St. Mary's Hospital, in Connecticut. She is now at an endocrinology fellow at the University of Florida.

Dr. Elmariah received his undergraduate degree from Duke University, in addition to a master's degree in biomedical engineering from UF. He attended medical school at UF, then completed a residency in internal medicine at Duke.

In addition, we would like to recognize our three outstanding undergraduate volunteers of 2013-2014.



Sagar Shrivastav is currently a first-year medical student at FIU College of Medicine. “My favorite experience at the Rahma Mercy Clinic also turned out to be my most challenging one. On one summer day, the coordinator and I were the only people who

showed up to clinic. We had 6 patients waiting at the door. Because it was only my third time at the clinic, my responsibilities expanded greatly that day as I took patient vitals and entered their profiles into the electronic medical records system. Once the doctor came, the three of us systematically addressed each patient's concerns in a professional and timely manner. What at first seemed like a mountain became easily conquerable,” he says.



Maryam Salimi-Tari graduated from UF in May 2014. “My goal as a volunteer at Rahma Mercy Clinic is not only provide health care for those who have trouble accessing it, but to also educate patients on the importance of maintaining daily healthy routines and teaching preventative care. I am happy to know that I am helping individuals in my community receive care and taking small steps on improving my community,” she says.



Ryneth Sok is involved in providing medical assistance both locally and abroad, as he recently traveled to Costa Rica to provide aid. “Volunteering at Rahma Mercy Clinic gives me an opportunity to contribute back to our community as well as helping reduce the health disparities in Alachua County. Interaction with physicians, medical students, and patients helped me build high-quality customer service through cultural sensitivity and knowledge for patients with challenges related to their socio-economic backgrounds. Without a doubt, it is a very rewarding experience, especially when I see the smile on the face of the patient at the end of the visit,” he says.